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WESTERN CLAY COMPANY - Hebe Gypsum Mine M/015/072
(a.k.a. Lone Tree Wedge Gypsum Mine UTU-73779)

June 16, 1997

- This project involves mining claims on BLM lands in the Hebe Mountain area. The mine has been active as an SMO/Notice since March 1996. The quarry is approximately 8.5 miles south of Interstate Highway 70 and one mile west of Muddy Creek in Emery County, Utah.
- Current surface disturbance includes the road ROWs and the active mining area. The current road disturbance within the BLM ROW is approximately 14 ft by 8,200 ft, or 2.64 acres. The current road disturbance within the SITLA ROW is approximately 14 ft by 1,280 ft, or 0.41 acres. The current disturbance at the active mining area is approximately 4.95 acres.
- Western has submitted a Large Mine Notice/Plan Of Operations to the Division and BLM for an expansion in their existing gypsum operations. The proposal would impact a total area of approximately 81.5 acres (not including the road ROWs). The life of the mine is currently projected as 11 years. No major or permanent surface structures are proposed at the mine site. Gypsum would be mined by drilling and blasting or by road reclaimer. The mined gypsum will be hauled by truck approximately 60 miles to be processed at Western's plant in Aurora.
- The proposed expansion is approximately 0.2 miles from the border of the Muddy Creek WSA. The proposed expansion includes land within the western portion of the HR 1500 Muddy Creek unit.
- The comment period for the EA prepared by the BLM ended May 30, 1997.
- Areas of the proposed expansion contain the endangered plant species *Sclerocactus wrightiae* (Wright fishhook cactus). The US Fish and Wildlife Service has prepared a biological opinion for the proposed operations. The biological opinion has been listed in the stipulations of the EA prepared by the BLM. The stipulations require Western to salvage soils from an area one meter in diameter and five centimeters deep around each cactus. These soils will be stored for future reclamation or placed on areas of concurrent reclamation. Western is required to transplant 500 to 750 cacti from areas of proposed expansion to areas being reclaimed. Western is required to annually harvest a minimum of 50 percent of all mature seed from the cacti in areas planned for future quarry operations.

PERMIT CHRONOLOGY

for

Western Clay Company

Hebe Gypsum Mine

M/015/072

(BLM #UTU-73779 - a.k.a. - Lone Tree Wedge Gypsum Mine)

(June 13, 1997)

Note: Dates shown are when these items were received or sent by DOGM.

Feb. 26, 1996	Received copy of Notice submitted to BLM.
March 5, 1996	Division letter to BLM stating notice is complete.
March 11, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to Western listing 7 stipulations of approval.
April 23, 1996	DOGM - BLM phone conversation regarding recent BLM inspection and increased road width.
May 9, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to Western requiring an amendment to adjust for the increase in road width from 11 feet to 11.5 feet.
May 15, 1996	Western letter to BLM amending the plan and disturbed area (4.97 acres).
May 20, 1996	Western letter asking DOGM for approval of proposal to improve the access road according to the enclosed ROW application being sent to the BLM.
May 20, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to Western accepting the proposed road width change.
June 19, 1996	Copy of BLM Notice of Decision to Western. BLM inspection of 6/13/96 found road to be 14 feet wide and therefore the acreage is 5.45 acres. Western is directed to submit a Plan of Operations and obtain a right-of-way on the access road within 45 days.
June 19, 1996	Division staff inspects site to examine road disturbance.
July 9, 1996	Division letter to Western describing measures to be taken to avoid a Notice of Agency Action (sent by fax & mail).
Aug. 1, 1996	Division - Western phone conversation regarding lack of response by Western.
Aug. 5, 1996	Western letter agreeing to the 3 measures outlined in the Division letter.
Aug. 16, 1996	Received Western LMO/Plan of Operations (POO).
Aug. 19, 1996	Received copy of Western POO forwarded by BLM.

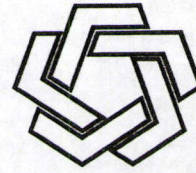
Aug. 21, 1996	Letter to Western describing allowable mining activities during review of the LMO submission.
Aug. 23, 1996	Received copy of BLM's executed ROW agreement with Western. A \$5,000 bond is held for reclamation of an area 30 ft. x 8,200 ft.
Aug. 26, 1996	Received copy of BLM review letter to Western. The letter lists 28 deficiencies in the POO.
Sept. 5, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to Western stating Notice of Noncompliance has been complied with and authorized <u>mine</u> disturbance is now 2.62 acres. BLM considers the road ROW separate from the mining disturbance.
Sept. 9, 1996	Copy of Western letter to BLM amending notice to include drilling and blasting.
Sept. 11, 1996	Copy of Western response letter to BLM's August 2, 1996, letter.
Sept. 13, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to Western accepting changes to notice to allow blasting.
Sept. 17, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to Western describing 6 deficiencies in the POO.
Sept. 27, 1996	Division letter to Western describing deficiencies in LMO submission.
Oct. 18, 1996	Fax copy of Western letter to BLM wishing to amend notice by increasing the mine area by 2.267 acres for a new total of 4.887 acres.
Oct. 21, 1996	Division letter to Western allowing the proposed increase in mining area subject to 3 conditions: 1) \$15,000 interim surety be posted; 2) submission of technically complete LMO; 3) compliance with all DOGM & BLM regulations.
Oct. 21, 1996	Hard copy of Western letter to BLM (received by fax 10/18/96).
Oct. 28, 1996	BLM letter to Western accepting proposed amendment to 4.887 acres.
Nov. 4, 1996	Copy of Division letter of 10/21/96 initialed and notarized by Western as accepting the Division's conditions.
Nov. 6, 1996	Division letter to Western acknowledging receipt of \$15,000 interim surety and allowing Western to operate according to the terms agreed upon.
Nov. 22, 1996	Copy of Western letter to BLM amending notice to increase area by 0.06 acres to a new total of 4.95 acres.

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Hebe Gypsum Mine
M/015/072
June 13, 1997

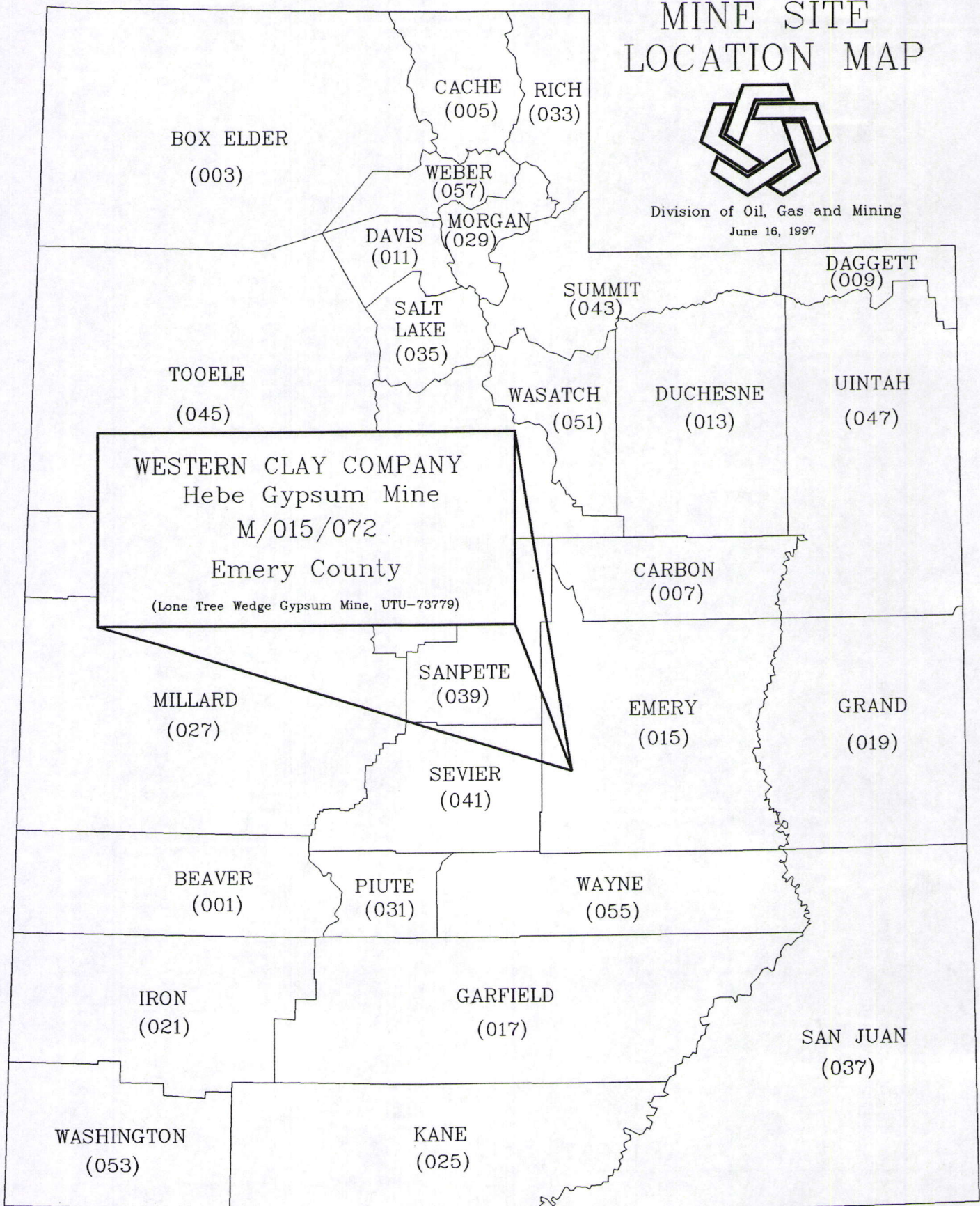
Dec. 10, 1996	Division request for annual report.
Jan. 30, 1997	Division letter to Western describing deadlines for Board packages.
Feb. 6, 1997	Fax from Western. Copy of the Division's 9/27/96 review letter with their response notes in the margins explaining where the information is located in their submission.
Feb. 12, 1997	Fax of reclamation estimate from Western.
Feb. 24, 1997	Division inspection of site.
April 1, 1997	Article in Salt Lake Tribune
April ?, 1997	Copy of Road Easement Application filed with Trust Lands by Western. Easement is for approximately 1,280 feet of road and up to 0.59 acres.
April 4, 1997	Article in Desert News.

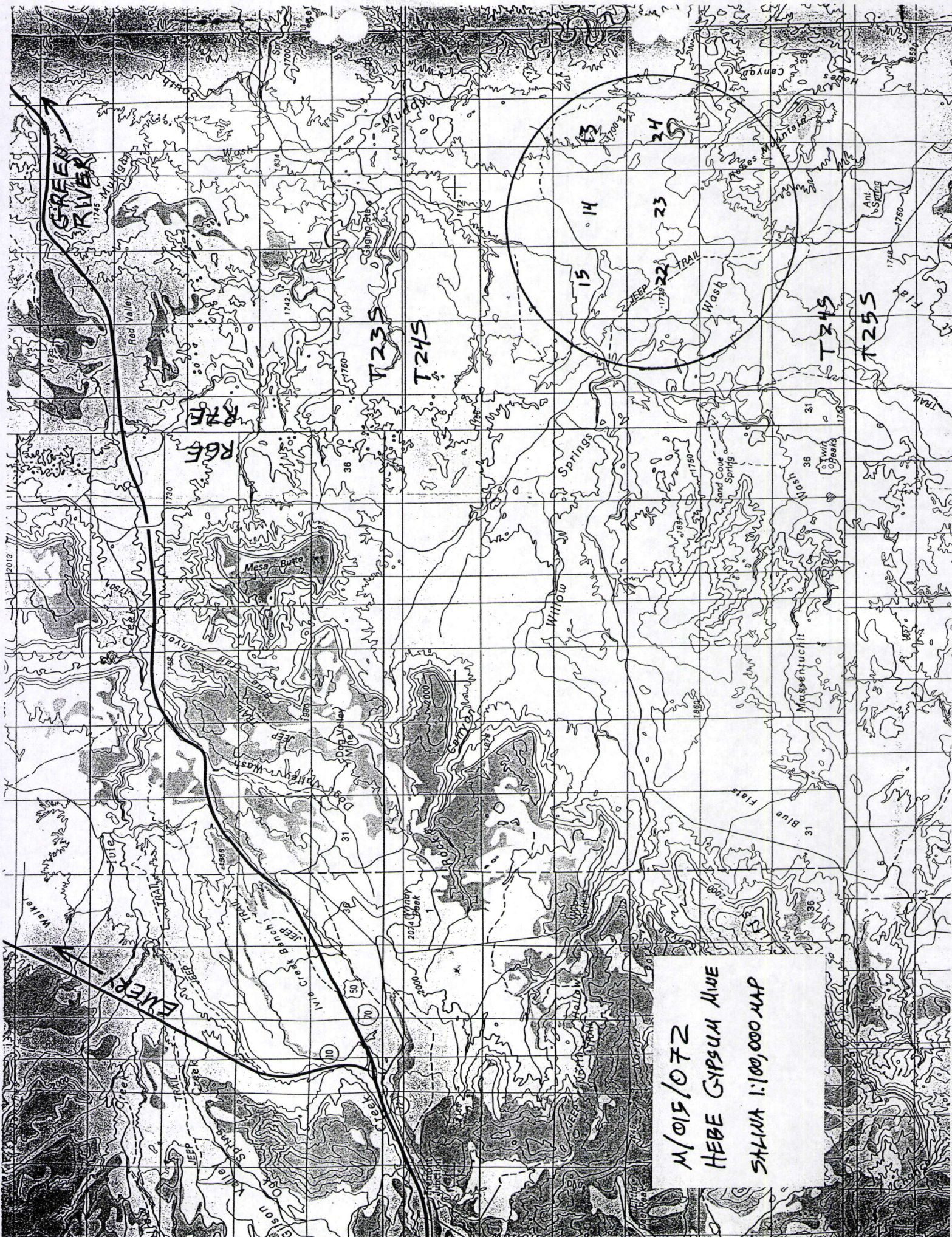
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MINE SITE LOCATION MAP



Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
June 16, 1997





M/015/072
HEBE GYPSUM MINE
SALINA 1:100,000 MAP

HEBE #1

AREA F

HEBE #2

DIKE

DIKE

DIKE

14 13
23 24

32.97 AC

3.50 AC

AREA C-2

37.44 AC

AREA C-1

3.73 AC

2.22 AC

2.34 AC

AREA A

AREA B

AREA D

5560

5560

5520

5520

5600

5560

5520

5520

5480

480

5480

5560

5520

U.S. GYPSUM COMPANY - Kimball Draw Project

E/015/066 and M/015/072

(a.k.a. San Rafael Quarry UTU-73777)

June 16, 1997

- The exploration project and proposed mining operation involves claims located on BLM lands.
- This project began in November 1994 as an exploration project submitted to the BLM and Division. The exploration project was amended in July 1996 to expand the project disturbance to approximately 7.9 acres. The amended project received final approvals from the BLM and DOGM in Sept.-Oct. 1996. A \$10,200 joint reclamation surety is held by DOGM.
- An EA was prepared by for the gypsum mine proposed by USG. The comment period for the EA ended April 25, 1997.
- USG has submitted a Plan Of Operations to the BLM and DOGM. The BLM has made an initial review of the Plan and sent a review letter describing 16 items which need to be addressed. DOGM is currently reviewing the Plan.
- Gypsum will be mined by drilling and blasting, although a surface profiler may be used. Gypsum will be hauled from the mine site by trucks to the processing plant at Sigurd. The proposed operation is estimated to have a project life of 30 years. Total disturbance for the operation is estimated as 107.4 acres. Concurrent reclamation will limit the amount of area disturbed at any one time to 66 acres or less.
- The northeastern corner of the proposed project area is within the Devils Canyon WSA. The northern portion of the proposed project area and the southern part of the access road are within the Devils Canyon Unit HR-1500 area. Under the BLM policy for management of lands under wilderness review, the lands within the Devils Canyon WSA would be held to the nonimpairment standard which prohibits disturbance requiring reclamation.
- Wright fishhook cactus is a federally endangered species and was found at two locations within the proposed project area: Tea Bush Flats and adjacent to Kimball Draw in the northeastern corner of the project area.

PERMIT CHRONOLOGY

for

U.S. Gypsum
Kimball Draw Project
E/015/066 and M/015/075
(aka San Rafael Quarry - UTU-73777)
(June 13, 1997)

NOTE: Exploration project E/015/066 has evolved into a proposed Large Mine M/015/075.

Sept. 9, 1994	Notice submitted to BLM received by DOGM.
Sept. 22, 1997	DOGM letter to the BLM stating the Notice is not complete.
Sept. 22, 1994	Copy of BLM letter to US Gypsum ("USG") received (notice incomplete).
Oct. 5, 1994	Received US Gypsum response to BLM letter re: acceptability of consultant to perform studies.
Oct. 21, 1994	Received US Gypsum response to DOGM's comments.
Oct. 24, 1994	Received copy of US Gypsum letter to BLM providing additional information.
Nov. 4, 1994	Received BLM's letter to USG accepting notice with 12 stipulations.
Nov. 4, 1994	Division letter to USG stating notice now satisfies DOGM rules.
Nov. 25, 1994	Copy of USG letter to BLM with T&E species report enclosed.
April 8, 1996	USG exploration progress report received. Areas on the south side of Kimball Draw have been reseeded and harrowed. Areas on the north side of Kimball Draw have not been reclaimed yet due to an interest in additional drilling.
April 26, 1996	Division acknowledges receipt of progress report.
June 28, 1996	Received copy of USG exploration Plan of Operations submitted to BLM. The disturbed area proposed in the plan is approximately 7.9 acres including the disturbance in the original notice.
July 8, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to USG requesting additional information to Plan of Operations.
July 15, 1996	Copy of USG letter to BLM providing more information.
July 25, 1996	Received copy of USG's amendment submitted to BLM.

July 26, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to USG stating the Plan of Operations is now complete and they now need 60 days for public comment on EA. Total review time will not exceed 90 days.
July 29, 1996	Received FONSI for USG Plan of Operations signed by BLM 7/25/96. Public comment period ends 8/24/96.
Aug. 6, 1996	Received color copies of USG maps submitted to BLM in Plan of Operations.
Aug. 19, 1996	Division letter to BLM stating Plan as amended is complete but final approval cannot be granted until surety is posted and approved. Surety estimate is attached.
Sept. 9, 1996	USG reclamation surety for \$10,200 and Reclamation Contract received.
Sept. 9, 1996	Copy of BLM Notice of Decision to USG with 8 stipulations.
Sept. 12, 1996	Copy of DWQ letter to USG stating no permit required.
Sept. 30, 1996	Division letter of formal approval to USG.
Oct. 7, 1996	Copy of USG letter to BLM stating operations to commence 10/14/96.
Jan. 8, 1997	Received USG exploration progress report.
Jan. 17, 1997	BLM letter requesting DOGM calculate the bond estimate for USG's proposed gypsum mine. The proposal will disturb 40 acres in the next 10 years. The access road accounts for 28 acres out of the 40, but will be handled under a road ROW by the BLM.
March 6, 1997	Division letter to USG acknowledging receipt of report.
March 28, 1997	Received copy of EA UT-066-97-7 US Gypsum San Rafael Quarry presented to BLM prepared by TRC Mariah Associates, Inc. Public comment period ends April 25, 1997.
April 22, 1997	Received copy of USG Plan of Operations (UTU-73777).
June 9, 1997	Copy of BLM letter to USG describing 16 items of additional information needed for the Plan of Operations.

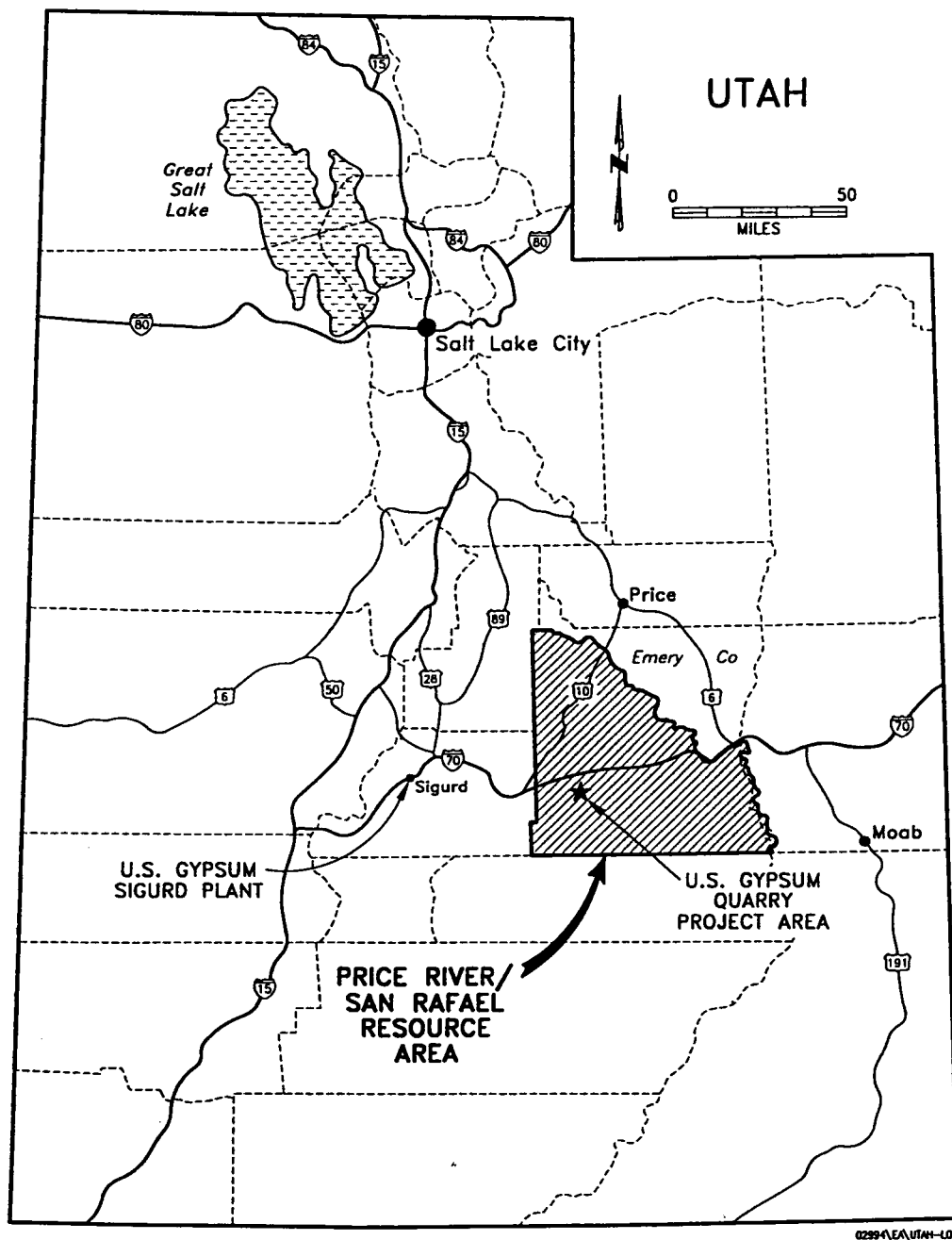


Figure 1.1 Project Area Location.

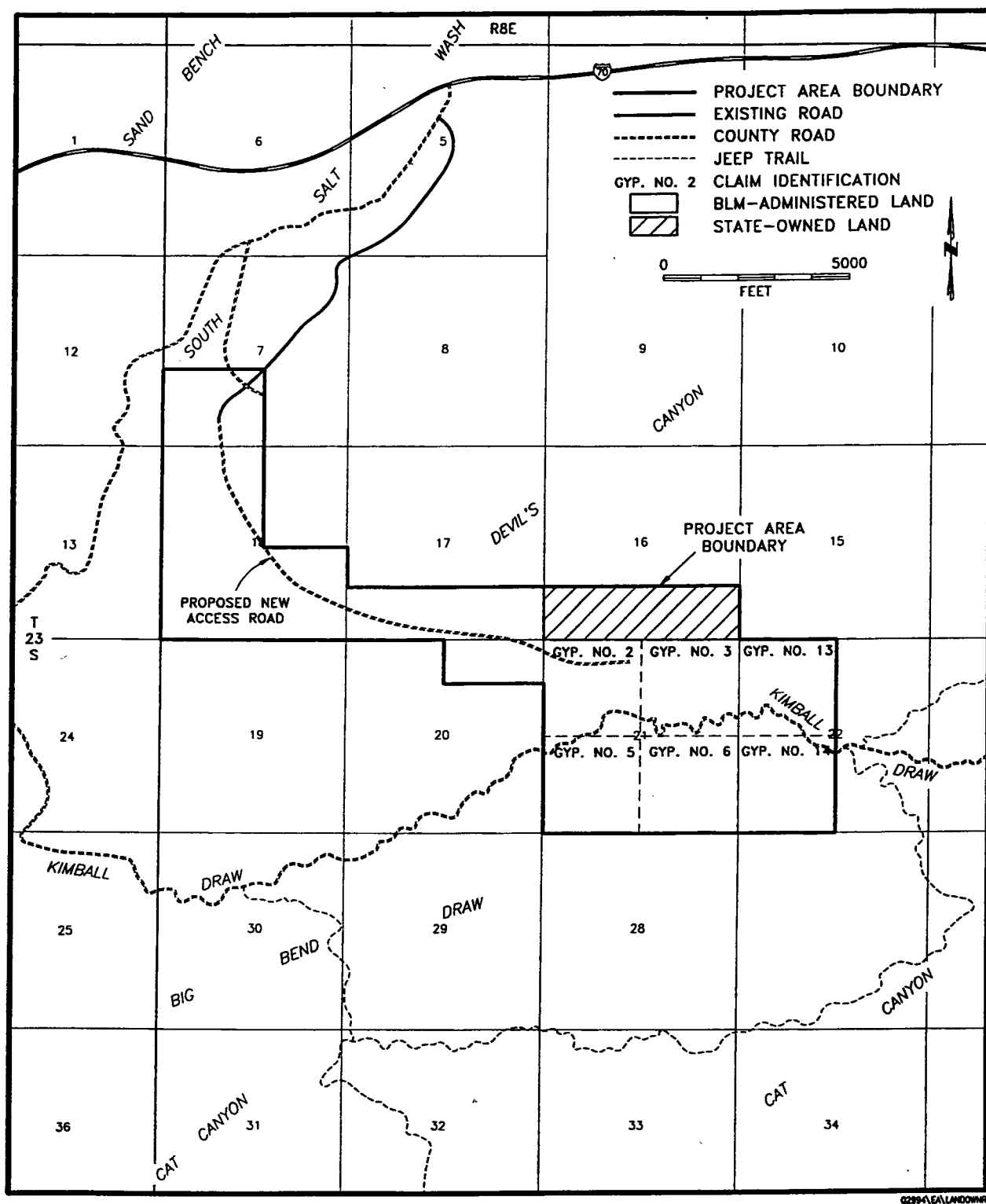


Figure 1.2 Environmental Assessment Analysis Area. Project Impacts Along the Existing Access Road (Sections 5 and 7) Are Also Evaluated in this Environmental Assessment.

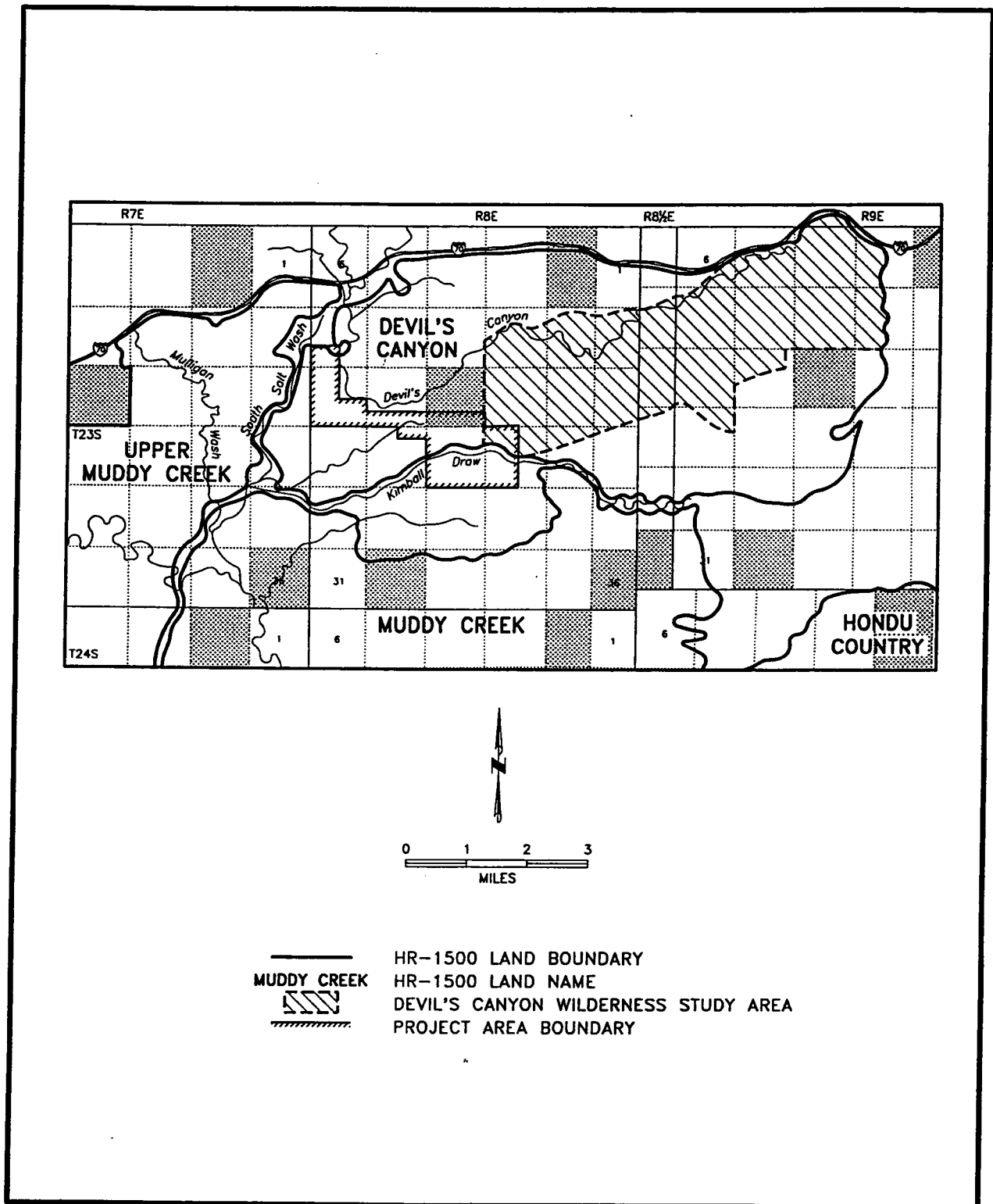


Figure 3.7 Wilderness Study Areas and HR-1500 Lands Map.